
Can exposure to chemicals be hazardous? (cont.)

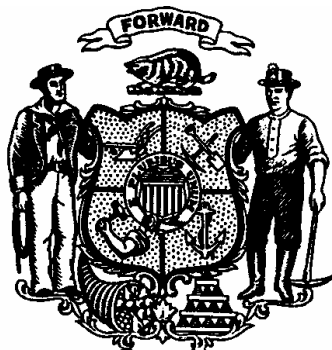
Nail acrylics: Methyl methacrylate (MMA) is an acrylic that is approved for use in dentistry and medicine, but the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has concluded that it is not safe for use in nail preparations. MMA vapors may be hazardous and when used to bond artificial nails MMA can cause redness, swelling, and pain in the nail bed.

Prior to having a procedure, you can verify ingredients in acrylic products by asking the nail salon for a Material Safety Data Sheet.

Lash and brow tints: The FDA prohibits the use of *hair dyes* for eyebrow and eyelash tinting or dying. Also banned are *eyelash and eyebrow tints* containing coal tar, also known as aniline. Again, prior to having a procedure, ask your practitioner for the Material Safety Data Sheet to verify ingredients.

What about the facility – what are the standards for salons?

In addition to proper disinfecting and storage of implements, the salon should look clean and relatively tidy. Although there may be some hair, nail dust or debris present, the counters and floors should be cleaned frequently and have an overall neat appearance. Shampoo sinks and pedicure spas should be clean and free from debris.



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Wisconsin Department of Regulation and Licensing

*Important
Information for
Consumers of
Beauty Services*



<http://drl.wi.gov>

Be an Informed Consumer!

The Wisconsin Department of Regulation and Licensing (DRL) and the Barbering and Cosmetology Examining Board regulate the professions of barbering, cosmetology, manicuring, aesthetics, and electrology. The salon and all practitioners in these fields must have current licenses issued by the Department.

Although a licensed cosmetologist can provide manicuring and aesthetics services, a separate license is required for electrology services. Also, be aware that many skin care services, including microdermabrasion, laser resurfacing, laser hair removal, and non-cosmetic chemical peels, can be provided only under the direction of a physician.

DRL handles consumer complaints involving incompetence, professional misconduct, and unsanitary conditions.

As a consumer of beauty products and services, you have the right to know about your salon's health and safety policies. This brochure is being provided so you, the consumer, can make informed decisions when hiring these professional services.

Should I worry about germs and bacteria?

Since many of the implements used in salons come in direct contact with your skin, cleanliness is a valid concern. There are very specific rules regarding cleaning and disinfecting equipment and implements.

Brushes, combs, nail clippers, and all other implements have to be cleaned and disinfected before use and in between clients. After cleaning and disinfecting, they must be stored in covered containers or closed drawers, separate from soiled implements.

Couldn't germs be transferred on my cosmetologist's or nail technician's hands?

This is also a valid concern. All practitioners are required to wash their hands with soap and running water between clients. Anti-bacterial gels and other waterless hand washing agents are an acceptable alternative only if they include alcohol as an active ingredient.

What about disposable implements, like sponges and emery boards?

Disposable implements that cannot be cleaned and disinfected must be disposed of following use. They cannot be reused on another client.

Can exposure to chemicals be hazardous?

The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has identified some chemicals previously used in the beauty industry as potentially hazardous. As an informed consumer you will want to confirm that your salon does not use products containing these chemicals. (cont.)

Remember, you have the right to know about the safety policies of your salon, so don't be afraid to ask. If you are not comfortable with what you see in a hair or nail salon, it may be best to leave. Cosmetology services should not hurt, injure, or put you at risk of infection through spread of germs and bacteria.

We hope you find the information in this brochure helpful. If you have any questions, you may contact the Department of Regulation and Licensing at web@drl.state.wi.us or 608-266-2112.